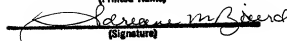


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A device that secures a token from unauthorized use is disclosed. The device comprises a user interface for accepting a personal identifier, a processor, 5 communicatively coupled to the user interface device, and a token interface. The token interface includes a token interface IR emitter that produces an IR signal having information included in the PIN. The token IR emitter is coupled to the processor and is further communicatively coupled to a token IR sensor when the token is physically coupled with the token interface. The token interface also 10 includes a shield, substantially opaque to the IR signal, for substantially confining the reception of the IR signal to the token IR sensor. In one embodiment, the shield substantially circumscribes the IR emitter. In another embodiment, the interface also comprises a token interface IR sensor, which allows communications from the token to the device as well.

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